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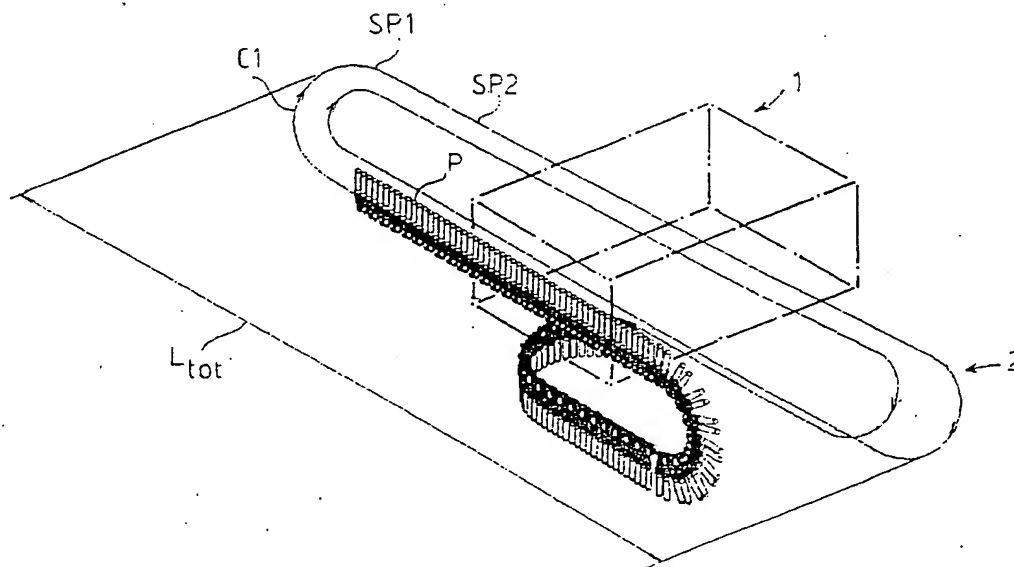
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(54) Title: PLANT AND METHOD FOR THERMALLY CONDITIONING PLASTIC ITEMS



(57) Abstract: The method for thermally conditioning preforms in accordance with the invention comprises the following steps: - Placing the preforms on a chain conveyor (2); - Conveying the preforms through a first thermal conditioning stage (1) and subjecting them to a first heating or cooling heat exchange; - Removing the preforms from the first thermal conditioning stage and holding them outside for a predetermined amount of time in order to redistribute the temperature inside the preforms; - Subjecting the preforms to at least a second heating or cooling heat exchange in a second thermal conditioning stage (1) or in the first thermal conditioning stage. The invention also concerns the plants for heating or cooling preforms in accordance with the above method.

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